



ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

23 May 24, 2016

Los Angeles County
Board of Supervisors

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May 17, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF
A DIETARY RETHERMALIZATION SYSTEM AT LAC+USC MEDICAL
CENTER
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

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SUBJECT

Authorize the acquisition of a Dietary Rethermalization System for the Department of Health Services' LAC+USC Medical Center Dietary, Food and Nutrition Services Department, at an estimated cost of \$2.126 million.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Authorize the Internal Services Department (ISD), as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of a Dietary Rethermalization System for the Department of Health Services' (DHS) LAC+USC Medical Center (LAC +USC MC) Dietary, Food and Nutrition Services Department with a total cost of approximately \$2.126 million.

To ensure access to high-quality, patient-centered, cost-effective health care to Los Angeles County residents through direct services at DHS facilities and through collaboration with community and university partners.



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PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of this action will allow LAC+USC MC to replace and install a Dietary Rethermalization (Retherm) System for the Dietary Food & Nutrition Services

Department. This system serves a multifunctional purpose and is essential to the LAC+USC MC's ability to provide patient meals, by allowing daily meals to be kept hot and cold and safely transported from the central kitchen to patients throughout the hospital's 600 inpatient beds.

The Retherm System currently in use at LAC+USC MC is a convection system that was procured in 2005, during the design/build phase of the current facility, from a vendor that has since gone out of business. This system has reached end of life and has become increasingly challenging to maintain. A functional retherm system is vital to the Dietary, Food and Nutrition Department, as it is used to transport approximately 54,000 patient meals per month.

After researching the two types of food service retherm systems on the market (convection and conduction), LAC+USC MC has determined that it will need to continue using a convection system. There are benefits to LAC+USC MC obtaining a convection system, such as: a convection system is compatible with the electrical system currently used at the facility; cart chambers are divided into hot and cold chambers allowing hot food to remain hot and cold food to remain cold at the same time; a heating element and a fan system to gently and evenly distribute hot air through-out the entire cart chambers to allow for the heating of the complete surface area of all food items, guaranteeing all foods are heated thoroughly and temperatures better maintained. On the other hand, a conduction system would require LAC+USC MC to reconfigure the workspace, develop new work processes, and bring on additional manpower. The sum of these changes would not be feasible within the current footprint, and would be cost prohibitive.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action supports Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated acquisition cost for a Dietary Rethermalization System is \$2.126 million. The scope of this replacement system includes 82 tray carts and 41 docking stations; serving dishes, lids, bowls, mugs, trays; installation; removal of old equipment; training; and one or more years of maintenance. Upon expiration of the initial warranty period, ongoing maintenance of the equipment will be funded within LAC+USC MC's existing operating budget. This equipment will be purchased in FY 2016-17 and funding is included in LAC+USC MC's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On October 16, 2001, the Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets and new requirements for major fixed asset (now referred to as capital asset) acquisitions requiring County departments to obtain Board approval to acquire or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisition to ISD.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This acquisition of equipment falls under the statutory authority of the County Purchasing Agent and will be accomplished in accordance with the County's Purchasing Policies and Procedures established by ISD.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will ensure the LAC+USC has a state of the art food retherm system in place to meet the continued provision of quality patient care services to the citizens of Los Angeles County.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mitchell Katz".

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.

Director

MHK:cpg:ja

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Internal Services Department